

## ABSTRACT

ULTRASOUND CONTRAST MEDIA, CONTRAST AGENTS  
CONTAINING THE MEDIA AND METHOD

5

10 The invention relates to injectable media for ultrasonic echography in  
the form of microbubbles or microballoons comprising at least two  
biocompatible substances A and B (gaseous at the body temperature) forming  
a mixture which when in suspension with usual surfactants, additives and  
stabilisers provides useful ultrasound contrast agents. At least one of the  
components (B) in the mixture is a gas whose molecular weight is greater  
than 80 daltons and whose solubility in water is below 0.0283ml per ml of  
water at standard conditions. The presence of the first component (B) in the  
15 contrast medium may vary between 0.5 and 41 volume percent. The other  
component (A) of the ultrasound contrast media is a gas or a mixture of gases  
whose molecular weight is below 80 daltons. The second component is  
present in a proportion of between 59 - 99.5% by vol., and is preferably chosen  
from oxygen, air, nitrogen, carbon dioxide or mixtures thereof. Gas mixtures  
20 described are found to be very effective as ultrasound contrast media. The  
invention also comprises a method of making the ultrasound contrast  
medium, the contrast agent and the ultrasound agent kit.